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# Deudraeth Rural District Council.



MEDICAL OFFICER'S  
REPORT FOR  
1957.



DEUDRAETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1957.

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Deudraeth Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Health Report for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

The Registrar General's mid year estimate of population showed a decrease of 40 as compared with the previous two years.

Live births decreased by 6 in 1957, and there was an increase of 19 in the number of deaths. This latter fact is largely accountable to the presence of an Aged Persons Home in the district.

Infant mortality remained the same as in the previous year.

There were 5 fewer deaths from cancer in 1957 and of these there were no lung cases.

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was halved, and once again the number of new pulmonary cases notified decreased (1955: 17, 1956: 9, 1957: 7).

There was a carry over of whooping cough from the previous year and a minor epidemic of measles.

Nine cases of Pneumonia were notified.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified.

I wish to thank Mr. R. O. Hughes for his co-operation during the year.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS

District Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Rural District 75,493 acres.  
 Rateable Value. £53,787.  
 Population (Registrar General's figures) 6,600.  
 Sum represented by a Penny Rate £220  
 Number of inhabited houses (According to the Rate Books) at end of year 2,350.

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

Births 1.18  
 Deaths 0.76

VITAL STATISTICS.

Nett Births (Live and Still) - 89  
 Births (Live) - 87  
 Births (Still) - 2

LIVE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION. 13.8

LIVE BIRTHS 87

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	41	46
Legitimate	39	42
Illegitimate	2	4

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of Total Live Births) - 0.69

DEATHS

Total number - 126

Males - 58 Females - 68

Rate per 1,000 population - 19.09  
 1956 figures - 16.11

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

Total - 2

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1000 Live Births) - 22.99  
 1956 figures - 21.51

Deaths of Legitimate Infants  
 Mortality (per 1,000 live births) - 22.99

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants  
 Mortality (per 1,000 live births) - Nil.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	nil	nil

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy - 1

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

Total - 16

Rate per 1,000 population - 2.42

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Total - 2

Rate per 1,000 population - 0.33

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES  
IN THE AREA.

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

One Medical Officer of Health.  
One Sanitary Inspector.

(2) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Water Analysis (Chemical) carried out by Mr. Harold Lowe,  
Public Analyst, Chester.  
Water Analysis (Bacteriological) and milk examination for  
cleanliness and keeping quality by the Public Health  
Laboratory, ~~Aberystwyth~~ Conwy.

(3) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

One Ambulance stationed at Penrhyndeudraeth.

(4) INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Penrhyndeudraeth - held fortnightly in the Melwyd Building.  
Harlech - held monthly at the Free Library.  
Trawsfynydd - held monthly at the Congregational Chapel Vestry.

(5) ANTE NATAL CLINICS.

Held at the Out-patients' Department, Memorial Hospital,  
Blaenau Ffestiniog, every two weeks.

(6) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

Held fortnightly at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(7) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

Held every week at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(8) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health.  
Immunisation of babies and young children carried out at  
the Primary School.

(9) HOSPITALS.

There is no Hospital situated in the area.

(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)  
notified during the year - 47

Scarlet Fever	-	-
Bacillary Dysentery	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	26
Measles	-	11
Infantile Paralysis	-	-
Pneumonia	-	9
Trysipalys	-	1



TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES

Pulmonary

Total - 6

Males - 5

Females - 1

Non-pulmonary

Total - 1

Males - nil

Females - 1

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS.

Pulmonary

Total - 2

Males - 1

Females - 1

Non-pulmonary

Total - nil

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1957 IN  
AGE GROUPS.

Age Periods	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15				1				
20		1						
25	2							
35								
45	1							
55	2				1			
65						1		
75								

CAUSES OF DEATH 1957.

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Malignant Stomach	2	
" Lungs	-	-
" Breast		2
" Neoplasm, uterus		2
" Other sites	4	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	19
Coronary diseases angina	6	4
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
Other heart diseases	7	9
Other circulatory disease	5	2
Influenza	2	2
Pneumonia	3	1
Bronchitis	3	3

	M.	F.
Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastiritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis		3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	7
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	4	6
Suicide	1	-
Neoplasms		
Congenital Malformations	1	-
Diabetes		1
TOTAL	58	68

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Orders were made extending the period of removal in one case, who was transferred from a sanatorium to a hospital within the area.

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GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS.

Sewerage

Work was commenced on the Maentwrog Village Sewerage Scheme, due for completion in 1958.

Repairs and improvements were carried out to the Penrhyndeudraeth and Harlech Outfall Sewer. The Council approved an extension to Fronyw, Talsarnau of a 6" sewer to serve 5 properties and the work was carried out satisfactorily.

Plans were approved for a Sewerage Disposal Scheme at Ynys, Talsarnau.

Private cesspools and Septic Tanks within the district were examined and emptied when necessary. All disposal plants maintained by the Council were regularly inspected.

Water

The Council approved plans and tender for the re-laying of approximately 630 yards of 3" A.C. Water Mains through Garreg Village, Llanfrothen.

Inspections were regularly carried out on the water works and sources of supply within the district, and bacteriological analysis of water samples from the supplies were frequently taken. Chemical and bacteriological samples were also taken for private supplies and advice given as to remedies etc. A few properties still remain on the standpipe supply i.e. Tai Newyddion, Ynys, Frongoch and Fronfair, Maentwrog, a few properties at Rhyd and Tanlan, Llanfrothen, whilst Bryn Ewbach, Llandecwyn is without a supply at all. The Council have considered the re-laying of the mains on the Llanfair Road, Harlech and the supplementing of Town supply from Llyn Eiddew Mawr.

Total length of mains throughout the district is 28 miles. Water is supplied into 1,370 houses, and during the summer months the demand is tenfold owing to the influx of tourists.

Total number of meter fixed to date -- '79

Total number of new connections - 8

" " of re-connections - 7

" " of Bact. & Chem. samples - 31.

Public Conveniences.

New conveniences were erected at Llandanwg by direct labour and plans were approved for the improvement of Maentwrog Conveniences. The Council have also considered site for the erection of new Public Conveniences at Llanfrothen, Gellilydan and Bronaber. The existing conveniences were satisfactorily maintained by the Council's employees, and improvements were carried out to the Penrhyndeudraeth Conveniences by direct labour.

Refuse Collection

A weekly domestic collection is carried out by the Council's own vehicle (except for Croesor Village) and very few complaints were received concerning the work. Requests were made to collect from additional properties, which were granted.

Refuse sites were well maintained and inspected regularly. The Llanbedr Tip was closed and covered with earth, and a survey was carried out for another suitable site.



### Rodent Control.

The service is carried out jointly with the Ffestiniog U.D.C., a full time Officer being employed for both districts. Refuse sites and sewers besides numerous properties are inspected and treated regularly.

### Disinfestation.

Disinfecting and fumigating of infested premises is undertaken as required and directed by the M.O.H.

### Housing.

Surveys were made for probable sites for Old People 's houses at Harlech, Gellilydan and Penrhyndeudraeth.

A survey of all the Council's Houses was carried out, and the necessary repairs, maintenance and painting effectively done. The fencing of the properties at Adwyddu Estate was carried out and the appearance of the site greatly improved.

Some unfit houses were improved in accordance with undertakings given. The Council approved the purchasing of vacant dwelling houses in reasonably good condition, as part of their re-housing programme.

The total number of plans submitted under the Bye-Laws and considered by the Council was - 73.

### Housing Act, 1949.

A substantial amount has been given by way of grants during the year, and much publicity has been given to the grants available. The scheme has afforded landlords to carry out schemes of improvements under Slum Clearance.

The total number of applications approved during 1957 was - 5

Total number approved to end of December, 1957 - 64.

### Parking Grounds.

The Council gave due consideration to parking sites at Harlech, Maentwrog and Llanbedr and various surveys were carried out as to suitable sites.

The following inspections were carried out during the year:

Houses - Public Health Acts.....	123
Houses - Housing Acts.....	619
Complaints investigated.....	47
Factories.....	1
Workshops.....	1
Infectious Disease Cases.....	2
Petroleum Acts.....	5
Catering Establishments.....	6
Vehicles Conveying Food.....	5
Re-visits to property under notice.....	14
Ice Cream Premises.....	5
Milk Samples - Tuberculosis.....	3
Tinned foods and other articles of	36 tins
food.....	46lbs. meat
Houses Disinfected.....	8
Water samples.....	40
Miscellaneous.....	32
Slaughter Houses.....	9
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Total -	1002
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SIGNED.. J.E. JONES.

Assistant to Public Health  
Inspector/Surveyor.

July, 1958.



